

Notice of Exemption

Appendix E

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

Project Title: Giant Sequoia Resilience Coordination Project (SNC1522)

Project Location – Specific: The entire range of Giant Sequoia across the Sierra Nevada, with a focus area in the Case Mountain Grove Complex, approximately 7 miles southeast of the town of Three Rivers, California. Focus area center at approximately 36.43624167 / -118.8479972.

Project Location - City: 7 miles southeast of Three Rivers

Project Location - County: Tulare, Fresno

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy would provide funding for the Plumas Corporation, in close partnership with the Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition, to coordinate planning activities to 1) develop a comprehensive Giant Sequoia data portal that catalogs and maps the needs of each grove, 2) complete a draft Giant Sequoia Health and Resiliency Assessment, 3) develop a five-year plan of prioritized projects, 4) establish a dedicated Giant Sequoia Coordinator position and 5) complete planning and environmental compliance for approximately 2,000 acres of treatments in the Case Mountain Grove Complex. The Coalition's goal is to create resiliency in Giant Sequoia groves, which are impacted by drought and fire throughout their range.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Plumas Corporation

Exempt Status:

Statutory Exemption: Section 15262 Feasibility and Planning Studies

Categorical Exemption: Section 15306 Information Collection

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is Statutorily Exempt under Section 15262 Feasibility and Planning Studies as the project only involves planning studies for possible future actions which the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board has not approved, adopted, or funded; there is no legally binding effect on later activities. The project is also categorically exempt under Section 15306 Information Collection because it consists of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a disturbance to environmental resources.

The proposed activities are for information gathering purposes and are part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. SNC has independently reviewed the project and determined that no exception under Section 15306 applies.

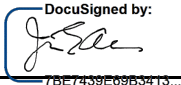
Lead Agency

Contact Person: Mary Akens

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-450-5177

If filed by applicant: N/A

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project:
Yes No

Signature:  Date: 3/2/2023 Title: Chief Deputy Executive Officer

Signed by Lead Agency: Yes

Signed by Applicant: No

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code. Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.